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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. : 10/736,535

Applicant : Tal

Filed : December 17, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner : Nguyen

Docket No. : TAL-001

Customer No. : 021884

Title : VASCULAR ABLATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:

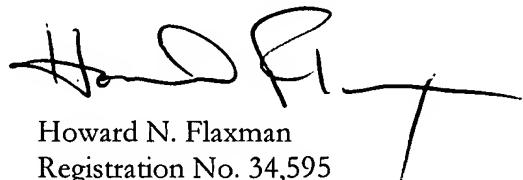
- 1a. Form PTO-1449.
- 1b. Copy(ies) of IDS citation(s), except for U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application publications for applications filed on or after June 30, 2003.
- 1.c. English language copy of a communication(s) from a foreign Patent Office or a PCT International Search Report.
- 1d. English language translation (complete, Abstract, or relevant portion(s)) attached to non-English language publications as indicated on the attached PTO Form PTO-1449.
- 1e. Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of non-English publications.
- 1f. List of Copending Applications (ATTACHMENT 1(f), hereto).
- 1g. List of Additional Submitted Documents (ATTACHMENT 1(g), hereto).

2. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(b):
(Check either Item 2a or 2b or 2c or 2d)
- 2a. Within three months of the filing date of a national application;
2b. Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application.
2c. Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; or
2d. Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.
3. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c) after the period specified in paragraph 2 above but before the mailing date of any of a Final Office Action under § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, AND
(Check either Item 3a or 3b; Item 3b to be checked if any reference known for more than 3 months)
- 3a. The § 1.97 (e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; OR
3b. The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is:
 enclosed.
 to be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2221.
4. This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(d) after the period specified in paragraph 3 above, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee, AND
- 4a. The § 1.97(e) Statement in Item 5 below is applicable; AND
4b. The \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is:
 enclosed.
 to be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2221.
5. Statement under § 1.97(e) (*applicable if Item 3a or 4a is checked*)
(Check either Item 5a or 5b)
- 5a. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), it is stated that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- 5b. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(2), it is stated that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

6. This is a continuation/division/continuation-in-part application under 37 CFR § 1.53(b).
(Check appropriate Items 6a and/or 6b).
- 6a. Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were previously cited in prior application Serial No. _____, filed on _____, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, have been omitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.98(d).
- 6b. Copies of the publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which were not previously cited in prior application Serial No. _____, filed on _____, and which is relied on for an earlier effective filing date for the subject application under 35 U.S.C. § 120, are provided herewith.
7. This is a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR § 1.114.
(Check either Item 7a or 7b)
- 7a. The Issue Fee has not been paid.
- 7b. A Petition to Withdraw from issue under 37 CFR § 1.313(c) is filed concurrently herewith or has been granted. A Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR § 1.114, after payment of Issue Fee, is proper in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.114(a), respectively.
8. This is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement
(Check either Item 8a or 8b)
- 8a. This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(f) supplements the Information Disclosure Statement filed on _____. A bona fide attempt was made to comply with 37 CFR § 1.98, but inadvertent omissions were made. These omissions have been corrected herein. Accordingly, additional time is requested so that this Supplemental IDS can be considered as if properly filed on _____.
- 8b. This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is timely filed within one (1) month of the Notice under 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98, mailed _____.
9. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98, concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English publication is:
(Check appropriate Items 9a, 9b, 9c and/or 9d)
- 9a. satisfied for the non-English language publication(s) cited on the enclosed "English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP § 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of the Relevance, 8th Ed., Rev. 2)
- 9b. set forth in the application.
- 9c. satisfied for the non-English language publication(s) indicated on the attached Form PTO-1449 as having an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached thereto.
- 9d. enclosed as Attachment (1(e), hereto.

10. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).
11. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17 for this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account 01-2221.

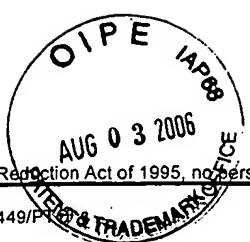
Respectfully submitted,



The image shows a handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Howard N. Flaxman".

Howard N. Flaxman
Registration No. 34,595

WELSH & FLAXMAN LLC
2000 Duke Street, Ste. 100
Alexandria, VA 22314
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/736,535
Filing Date	12/17/2003
First Named Inventor	Tal
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Nguyen

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

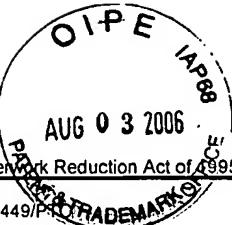
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



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Substitute for form 1449/P

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Application Number	10/736,535
Filing Date	12/17/2003
First Named Inventor	Michael G. Tal
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Nguyen

Sheet

2

of

2

Attorney Docket Number

TAL-001

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		PCT/US04/15858, Patent Cooperation Treaty PCT International Search Report, Form PCT/ISA/210, Pages 1-2	
		PCT/US04/15858, Patent Cooperation Treaty PCT Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority, Form PCT/ISA/237, Pages 1-3	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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